



Along With You

a short film written by **Robbie Gibbon & Elizabeth Adlington**
directed by **Robbie Gibbon**



SYNOPSIS

Following a dream is an alien concept to the 19 year old shoe shop assistant Ella. As the only living relative to her 70 year old nan, Ella's life is on hold, unable to let go of the past. This will all change on the day her nan, Iris escapes from the care home.

Fearing the worst Ella manages to track down her nan & instead of immediately returning her to care they continue on an adventure around town where Iris will finally tackle her bucket list. From stealing through to confronting an old nemesis their relationship will be put to the test where Ella must not only confront the past but also learn how to tackle their future.



CHARACTER: ELLA

Ella is a 19 year old single girl who at such a young age finds herself living alone in the family home. Old fashioned and homely but littered with shopping lists and out of date discount vouchers the home obviously hasn't changed since her nan Iris left. Guilt ridden that she is unable to care for Iris herself the least she can do is preserve the home & subsequently the life around her. Working a dead end job in a shoe shop Ella dreams of more but couldn't possibly pursue anything whilst she needs to be there for her nan.





CHARACTER: IRIS

In stark contrast to Ella's fear is Iris and her unquestioned optimism. Small blips demonstrate her decline in mental health but her love for Ella remains undiminished. In her quest for freedom & determination to tackle her fears Iris has become oblivious to Ella's inner turmoil & relishes in their time together. Through the course of the adventure Iris will unwittingly teach Ella a valuable lesson on how to cope with trauma and follow your dreams.





SETTING & ENVIRONMENT

Along With You is a grounded piece told in a heightened fashion. This is a story & predicament that most people will be able to find some connection to whether it is caring for elderly relatives or facing deeper trauma. It is vital that all locations are recognisable whilst being presented in a heightened fashion that represents Ella's perspective. Therefore as the story progresses & Ella is able to bring the light into her life the representation of the environment will entirely complement her positive approach to life. Palmers Green will also offer the perfect suburban location with the local shops & amenities providing the perfect backdrop.



TONE & HUMOUR

To fully appreciate the humour of the piece it is key that the audience warms to the characters of Ella & Iris. In order to warm to our characters it is key that the audience enjoys spending time with them & appreciates their predicament.

As a huge fan of the movie Harold & Maude I am focussed on achieving a similar heart-warming but anarchic tone. Our characters juxtapose each other perfectly allowing for some memorable & hopefully hilarious set-pieces. I want an audience to be completely drawn into the world we create with clearly established characters facing recognisable challenges in a heightened fashion.

As the piece comes to a close we are looking to offer a bittersweet experience. For Ella it is an absolutely heartbreaking choice she must make and I want the audience to feel this choice as much as Ella. Throughout the piece we have warmed to the pair so much that Ella's choice of whether to leave is as tough for us as it is for her.



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